

CITY OF BRAWLEY

August 1, 2011

The City Council of the City of Brawley, California met in an adjourned meeting at 6:00 PM, Aspen in the Desert Conference Room, 595 West Main Street, Brawley, California, the date, time and place duly established for the holding of said meeting. The City Clerk attests to the posting of the agenda pursuant to G.C. §54954.2.

The meeting was called to order by *Mayor Campbell* @ 6:10 PM

The invocation was offered by *Mayor Campbell*

PRESENT: Campbell, Couchman, Kelley, Miranda, Nava

ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was *approved* as submitted. m/s/c Miranda/Nava 5-0

AYES: Campbell, Couchman, Kelley, Miranda, Nava

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

1. REGULAR BUSINESS

a. DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ADOPTION OF URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2011-03: ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRAWLEY, CALIFORNIA MANDATING PROPER DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE.

Staff Report – Mark Gillmore, Interim City Manager

The City of Brawley lacks the ability to preserve the public peace, health and safety by ensuring that property owners maintain continuous solid waste disposal pickup services from occupied properties within the City by the city's contracted solid waste disposal service. It has come to the attention of the City of Brawley that some have chosen to cancel their service with the City's solid waste disposal provider, or not contract with the city's solid waste disposal provider, which results in the collection of solid waste and other dangerous noxious, substance on those properties.

CM Nava asked how do you contact the people that have this issue? *Answer:* The Code Enforcer Officer will be in contact with the owner or fine the owner.

CA Morita stated that Allied Waste has the contract.

CM Couchman asked if the contract with Allied Waste is for solid waste disposal? **Answer:** Yes. (**Gillmore**)

CA Morita stated that this ordinance will take effective immediately. **Answer:** Yes. (**Mayor**)

The council *motioned* to adopt **URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2011-03: ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRAWLEY, CALIFORNIA MANDATING PROPER DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE.** m/s/c Kelley/Miranda 5-0

AYES: Campbell, Couchman, Kelley, Miranda, Nava
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

2. OPEN SESSION

a. DISCUSSION/ACTION

PD Gaste mentioned that the plan here is to streamline the process for a business to locate to downtown. The Business Downtown Plan was never adopted because of the EIR.

ICM Gillmore asked what the cost is for the EIR about \$150,000? **Answer:** \$80,000 - \$140,000 (**Gaste**)

(1) DISCUSSION/ACTION TO DEVELOP A RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL THE INTENT OF WHICH WOULD BE TO STREAMLINE THE PERMITTING PROCESS TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

Staff Report - Gordon Gaste, City Planner

PD Gaste provided a power point presentation on the Development Application Process.

Chris Ferguson of the Imperial Valley Weekly asked what is the longest time for City Council and Planning Commission to approve an application? **Answer:** With no problems about 4 to 6 months (**Gordon**)

ICM Gillmore asked what is the site plan time frame? **Answer:** Depending on variances about 3 to 6 weeks. (**Gaste**)

Jay Kruger asked when a retail building is empty is the wait also 3 weeks? **Answer:** No, shouldn't come through planning because building is in existence. (**Gaste**)

ICM Gillmore stated that it falls under the business license category.

Eric Reyes mentioned that he doesn't think planning and or permitting is the issue so I don't know why this is coming up.

PD Gaste said this issue came up from the public complaining that sometimes we can't process it this is because of the developer.

ICM Gillmore this is just for information to make public understand the process.

CM Kelley stated that he appreciated the hand out and would like to see more of this in the future.

PD Gaste mentioned that we do have these items available online.

Staff Report - Ruby Walla, Finance Director

FD Walla provided a power point presentation.

The application for home business goes through the Planning Department for review and approval then business license is approved within 4 to 5 days. The location of the business goes through the Building and Fire Department for inspections and takes an average time of 7 to 10 days.

Jay Kruger asked if that was probably just paper work and then does it take more days for approval? And what about if you are from out of town how you do handle them? **Answer:** We mail the application ask what kind of business and see if it relates to the Planning Department and if not we refer it to the proper department. (**Walla**)

Mayor Campbell asked if it could be less than 7 days? **Answer:** Yes, it could be between 5 or 7 days depending on the business and if all information that is need is submitted. (**Walla**)

Jay Kruger stated that if he calls and say I want to sell gadgets, and the business location is zoned for something else does that take longer? **Answer:** We can start the application and issue the license while it's getting reviewed by the Planning Department. (**Walla**)

CM Nava asked if during your inspection you are notified right? **Answer:** Yes mainly for Health and Safety issues. (**Walla**)

ICM Gillmore is you saying that the person who is ready with a complete application will have it issued? **Answer:** Yes. (**Walla**)

The issues with businesses are financing, property locations and most owners out of town.

(2) DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING AVAILABLE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES.

Staff Report - Teresa Skrepenski, Economic Development & Redevelopment Program Coordinator

ED&RPC Skrepenski provided a power point presentation.

CM Kelley asked if what she was showing is this inside the City at this time? **Answer:** It's by the Beef Plant. (**Gaste**)

Jay Kruger asked what percentage of this available parcel of vacant land can be used? **Answer:** 75%. (**Gaste**)

Eric Reyes asked how is the City ready for businesses looking into our City? **Answer:** We have a packet ready and we do research once we know what kind of business it is. (**Skrepenski**)

ICM Gillmore said that we have a book of listings available.

(3) DISCUSSION/ACTION STAFF TO DEVELOP A "FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS" BROCHURE

CM Kelley asked if we have a Frequently Asked Questions listing? **Answer:** No. (**Gillmore**)

CM Nava mentioned that we need to have something online with time lines and contact person. We need to utilize our website.

ICM Gillmore asked if the public had any questions here of what we they can't find?

Sue Giller things that can be very helpful need to be put online like forms and minutes.

Chris Ferguson of the Imperial Valley Weekly suggested putting the map online? **Answer:** The Zoning Map is on the website under the Planning Department. The Interactive Map is not online but is available if you go thru the GIS System and that can be accessed by the public. (**Gaste**)

(4) DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING THE CREATION OF A BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

CM Nava said the goal of the Business Advisory Commission is to get input from the public. If interested in the BAC please see the City Clerk and fill out application it's very important to get this committee going we only have two (2) applicants at this time.

Eric Reyes asked what happened to funds that were given for the downtown businesses? **Answer:** We need to contact the Chamber. (**Gillmore**)

CEO of the Brawley Chamber of Commerce Ron Hull said that is now called the downtown Merchants Committee.

CM Kelley stated that was the Brawley Economic Development Commission.

Mr. Hull said that changed to Economic Development Sector but the city kind of took over it and did not continue to fund it.

CM Nava mentioned that it's not only for business owners it's also for residents.

RECESS @ 7:25 PM

RECONVENED @ 7:37 PM

**(5) DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING IMPERIAL VALLEY ENTERPRISE
ZONE MARKET STUDY**

Staff Report - Diane Cason, IVEZ Manager

Ms. Cason showed a power point presentation.

Development Design and Engineering President Tom DuBose stated didn't the EZ application part offer incentives? **Answer:** It is reported to the State of California and what was not added was reported in by audit. (*Cason*)

Jay Kruger is sales tax an incentive like El Centro? **Answer:** I'm taking notes and will look into that it. (*Gillmore*)

**(6) DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING RENEWABLE ENERGY
OPPORTUNITIES**

Staff Report – Gordon Gaste, Planning Director

Mr. Gaste provided a Renewable Energy Opportunities presentation.

Ms. Skrepenski said this is an opportunity as mentioned by *Ms. Cason*.

ICM Gillmore asked if there was any project at this moment? **Answer:** US University at this moment. (*Skrepenski*)

Jay Kruger asked if the City had any plans to develop an Industrial Park M1 or M2? **Answer:** It's already zoned and if developer can ask to change zones. (*Gaste*)

3. CURRENT PROJECTS

a. DISCUSSION/ACTION DEALING WITH PENDING ITEMS

CM Kelley asked about the areas around Wal-Mart? **Answer:** I have a list of pads at Wildcat Drive and procedures plus process. (*Gaste*)

CM Nava asked about Burger King? **Answer:** The holdup is from the developer. (*Gaste*)

Eric Reyes asked what about the Brawley Pioneer units; how often do we review the density as the additional units over flow? **Answer:** It's going to be the same size the density for R-3. (**Gaste**)

Chris Ferguson of the Imperial Valley Weekly asked about the KFC listed here is that next to Big John? Wasn't Starbucks looking at that area? **Answer:** Not sure about Starbucks. (**Gaste**)

b. STAFF UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS.

Staff Report – Mark Gillmore, Interim City Manager

ICM Gillmore gave an update on current projects: National Beef submitted plans and is going thru the process, Ormat-Tertiary Plant, Florentine new amendment to the conditional use permit, the Brawley By-Pass.

Eric Reyes asked about National Beef is there pressure with the ground beef addition? **Answer:** No pressure it will be done. (**Gillmore**)

PD Gaste stated that they submitted the package on July 15th and will be on Planning Commission the first meeting in September.

Mayor Campbell asked if it will create more jobs? **Answer:** Yes. (**Gaste**)

CM Kelley how about looking into transportation to get money and I believe ICTC is also looking? **Answer:** There is money available. (**Gaste**)

c. CURRENT GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
EDA GRANT – JERRY SANTILLAN

Jerry Santillan Assistant CEO of Imperial County came to make us aware of grant opportunities out there. There is money today and yesterday but maybe there will not be money in the future. You need to submit applications September, December and March for grants. You can apply for up to \$3 million for infrastructure. The question is the matching of the monies. The money is available from the State, EDA, CDBG and you should take advantage of it today.

Mayor Campbell asked if these grants helped create jobs? **Answer:** \$30,000 is to help create jobs (**Santillan**)

Tom DuBose said the City of Brawley needs to look into speeding up the process to help staff let's work in groups more and help the Planning Department.

CM Kelley said if we can work together on those projects and funds we should.

Mr. Santillan certainly I can take this information back and and work on incentives and sharing staff.

4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

REPORT OF ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY, BY CITY ATTORNEY.

None to report

ADJOURNMENT @ 8:35 PM

Alma Benavides